In the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A cell phone including a data capture system and a radiant-energy digital data transmission system, characterized in that the cell phone further includes a steganographic encoder that hides a plural-bit auxiliary code within data captured by the data capture system prior to its transmission by the data transmission system.

2. (Previously Presented) The cell phone of claim 1 in which the data capture system captures audio and includes a microphone.

3. (Previously Presented) The cell phone of claim 1 in which the steganographic encoder operates transparently to a user of the cell phone, wherein substantially all of the data transmitted by the cell phone is steganographically encoded.

4. (Previously Presented) A method of operating a cell phone, comprising:

receiving input information;

steganographically encoding the input information to hide a plural-bit auxiliary code therein; and

transmitting the steganographically-encoded information by wireless in a digital format.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 which includes:

receiving the input information in non-digital form;

expressing the received information in digital form; and

encoding the digital form of the input information.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 in which the input information is audio information.

7. (Previously Presented) The cell phone of claim 1 wherein the steganographic encoder additively combines an overlay signal with the data captured by the data capture system.

8. (Currently Amended) The cell phone of claim 7 wherein said overlay signal is dependent both on said plural-bit auxiliary code[,] and on said data captured by the data capture system.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein said steganographic encoding includes additively combining an overlay signal with said input information.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein said overlay signal is dependent both on said plural-bit auxiliary code and on said input information.

11. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

receiving audio information;

processing said audio information to convey first plural-bit digital information therewith, through in-band signaling;

conveying second plural-bit digital information with the audio through out-of-band signaling; and

transmitting said audio information, accompanied by both said in-band and out-of-band information.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said transmitting comprises transmitting by wireless.

13. (Previously Presented) In a method of steganographically encoding a transmission from a wireless device in accordance with plural-bit auxiliary data, an improvement wherein said encoding is based, at least in part, on data wirelessly received by said device from a remote source.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein said received data comprises pseudo random seed data.

15. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

receiving a wireless transmission at a device;

decoding plural-bit auxiliary data steganographically encoded in said transmission; and

using said decoded data to change an aspect of the device's operation.